

LEE COUNTY RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE

Special Meeting

December 2, 2021, at 9:00 AM

County Board Room
Old Lee County Courthouse, Dixon, Illinois

Zoom Video- & Tele-conferencing

Meeting ID: 828 7215 0974

Password: 797986

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23JnqrRG9yI>

or search, "Lee County Renewable Energy Committee – 12.02.21" in YouTube

Appointed Committee Members

Chris Norberg – Chair
Marilyn Shippert
Tom Kitson
Katie White
Tom Wilson
Danielle Allen

Advisory Members

Dee Duffy, Zoning Administrator
Alice Henkel, Renewable Energy Coordinator/Clerk
Charley Boonstra, State's Attorney (via ZOOM)

At 10:00AM, Chair Chris Norberg called the meeting to order.

Chair Norberg called for roll call of members of the committee and county staff.

Appointed Members present: Norberg, Shippert, Kitson, Wilson via ZOOM,
Appointed Members absent: White, Allen
Acting Members present: David Bally and Michael Koppien

Advisory Members present: Duffy, Henkel
Advisory Members absent: None

The following visitors were present:

Len Saunders, Business Agent with Carpenter's Local 790
Danelle Burrs, Lee County Farm Bureau
John Nicholson, Lee County Board Member
Stephen Hall, Ameresco
Nick Polk, Audubon
Emily Skill, Enel
Ben Sych, Enel (via ZOOM)
Anthony Neve, Recall Strategies

The first order of old business was a discussion regarding the pipeline ordinance and biogas facility zoning requirements. Renewable Energy Coordinator Alice Henkel presented the committee with an outline of what would be required by a Petitioner seeking a permit for a biogas facility. She proposed that an I-3, Heavy Industrial District would be suitable for this type of use.

Steven Hall from Ameresco and Nick Polk from Audubon were present to give a presentation on the proposed biogas facility and pipeline.

Following the presentation, Chair Norberg introduced the draft pipeline ordinance prepared by Ms. Henkel. He asked the committee to look over the draft pipeline ordinance and the requirements of an I-3 zone and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting of this committee.

Under old business was the discussion of a residential solar ordinance. Ms. Henkel was unable to get a draft ordinance for residential solar prepared for this meeting. The committee agreed to hold off on further discussion until a draft has been prepared.

Emily Skill, Development Manager with Enel, was present regarding Battery Energy Storage Systems (“BESS”). Enel currently has projects that include BESS and are constructing projects that will include BESS. Enel is willing to assist the County in preparing an ordinance for Battery Energy Storage Systems and has been working with Enel’s BESS team to develop a template or model ordinance that the County can use to develop their ordinance. She is hoping to have something to present to this committee in late January 2022.

Given that the County is not prepared to adopt an ordinance for BESS at this time and the moratorium is nearing expiration, Chair Norberg said he would entertain a motion to recommend that the moratorium on BESS be extended an additional six (6) months. A vote was taken, and all were in favor.

Under old business, Chair Norberg noted that there no discussion at this time regarding the WECS update.

Under new business was the discussion of a moratorium on all new wind and solar projects. Following a thorough discussion, the committee voted 3-2 in favor, of recommending to the Planning/Properties Committee the placement of a six (6) month moratorium on all new wind project, not to include repowers, and all new solar projects in the County. It was asked that the record reflect that the moratorium can be lifted once the goals of the moratorium are achieved.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 5, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

At 10:55 a.m., Tom Kitson made a motion to adjourn. A second was discerned and there was no debate. A vote was a taken, and all were in favor. Motion passed, 5-0.

*Live feed can be viewed on **YouTube** at [Lee County Renewable Energy Committee – 12.02.21.](#)*

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Henkel